

# St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish of Ballina

Respecting the traditional people of this land, the Bundjalung people



St Francis Xavier Church,  
47 Cherry Street,  
Ballina

welcome

Holy Family Church,  
94 Ballina Street,  
Lennox Head.

16th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time (C)

17th July, 2022

'WELCOME'

**Weekend Mass Times  
Ballina**

**St Francis Xavier Church**  
**Saturday Vigil — 6.00 pm**  
**Sunday — 9.00 am**  
**Sunday — 11.00 am**

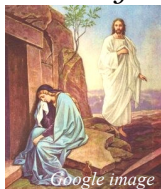
**Lennox Head  
Holy Family Church**  
**Saturday Vigil—5.00 pm**  
**Sunday—7.30 am**

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
at St Francis Xavier Church  
**Tuesday to Friday**  
**12.00 noon**

**RECONCILIATION**  
9.00 am Saturday ~ Ballina  
St Francis Xavier Church

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**Feast Day**  
**St Mary Magdalene,**  
*Friday*



## Sacred quality of trees

In the religious imagination of humanity, a tree is often understood to be a symbol of the connection between heaven and earth: branches, spread out and covering all beneath them, are joined by a trunk to roots plunged into the ground. The foliage above gives shade – protection from the harsh heat of the day – and fruit – for our nourishment. Besides water (which like fruit 'falls' from above) human survival depends on shelter and food, both of which the tree provides.

The terebinth tree, common in the holy land, manifests this sacred quality of trees: its thickly leaved branches (bearing berry-like fruit used in traditional medicine and cooking) span low and wide over the observer beneath them; its stubborn trunk protuberates out of the dry, rocky earth like a miracle.

In this way the tree repeats the structure of the world – sky and earth – seen from a spiritual point of view. Add to this the pungent smell of the terebinth – resinous, full of life – and perhaps you have a sense of the setting for today's engrossing Old Testament reading: Abraham, camped under the terebinth of Mamre, is visited by three strangers, whom he graciously entertains, waiting on them, feeding them the best he has to offer. And conversing with them: they (or he: somehow the three persons are the appearing of the one God) make a promise that in a year's time Abraham's barren, elderly wife Sarah will have a son.

The gift of a son initiates the surprising way the God who called Abraham out of Babylo-

nia to a different way of life will fulfill his original promise to give Abraham uncountable descendants, who will inherit the land in which he is camped and bring great blessing to all the world.

A people, a land, and universal blessing: all of this is meant to turn our minds back to the beginning of the bible when God created people, in a land (the tree-garden of Eden) and gave them a universal vocation based on a blessing. Abraham and Sarah, under the terebinth, are a New Adam and Eve, the renewal



of God's original humanity project that sin threatened to derail.

This project culminates in Christ, the ultimate Adam, through whose 'tree' the universal blessing promised to Abraham comes to the world. From the Garden of Eden to the Cross to the New Creation (with its centrally placed Tree that nourishes and heals all),

the storyline of redemption is marked at major moments by trees. Their interrelated symbolic significance contributes to the meaningful unity of the whole biblical epic.

Next time you are outside, spend a few contemplative minutes underneath a tree. It's not hard to see the cosmic beauty of that tree as a faint image of the coming 'world without end, amen' for which we are always praying.

W Chris Hackett  
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**Catholics from the Diocese of Lismore are dispensed from their  
Sunday Mass obligation until further notice.**

**PRESBYTERY:** Phone: 6686 2042  
**\*AFTER HOURS MOBILE: 0423 445 639\***

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:**

**PARISH LIBRARY:**

**SCHOOLS:**

**AGED CARE:**

**Administrator of Ballina Parish:** Father Peter Padsungay

**Assistant Priest:** Father Anselm Okeke

**Pastoral Associate:** John Kearney **Email:** john@sfxballina.org.au

**Parish Youth Co-Ordinator:** Bianca McInnes **Email:** bianca@sfxballina.org.au

Phone: 6681 1048; Fax: 6686 8774; **Email:** admin@sfxballina.org.au

Mon to Fri 8:30 am - 4:00 pm - 53-57 Cherry Street - **Postal Address: PO Box 46 Ballina 2478**

**www.sfxballina.org.au**

Library available to parishioners Mon to Fri 9 am - 4 pm;

St Francis Xavier Primary: 6686 3370 - Swift St, Ballina

Holy Family Primary: 6687 5311 - 40 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head

Xavier Catholic College: 6687 6484 - 2 Redford Drive, Skennars Head

St Anne's Long Day Care Centre: 6687 5961 - 42 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head

Crowley Care Services: 1300 139 099 - 154 Cherry St, Ballina

Independent Living Village, Residential Aged Care, Home Care Services

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Peter Coote (*Coffs Harbour*), Max Badewitz, Barry Wappett, **THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Bill Shay, Bonnie Donnelly, Nora Buckley, Anne Moreland, Hilary Dwyer, Hector McNiff jnr, Hector McNiff snr, Betty & Sharon-Lee McNiff, **AND ALSO FOR:** *Ted Murphy, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerslake, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, Rina, Charlie & James Volpatti, Thama Walker, Kathleen Kelly, Jean Shay, Cecilia & Bill Condon Snr, Stan & Mary McKeough, Members of the SVdP Conference & Auxiliary & for all faithful departed.*

**AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:** John Moreland, John and Conchita Schroder, Gregory Thomas, Jocelyn O'Brien, Carmel Hackett, Louise King, Greg Campbell, Tommy Roskell, Leila Aitken (*Sydney*), Estelle Anderson, Tony Smith, Sr Margaret Mary pbvm, Mardi Seabrook, Barbara Levett, Maureen West (*Sydney*), Fr Louis Molloy sm, Kath Young, Maureen Donovan, Rose Norris, Danny Reynolds (*Caloundra*), John McCoy, Greg Shore, Elsie Evans, Maureen Kearnes, Patrick Connelly, Patricia Evans, John Heaton, Dympna Sheehy, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Corazon Accon, Pauline McLachlan, Darcy Martin, (*Aunty*) Julia Paden, Yvonne & Peter Thurtell, Louise Wilson, Michael O'Connor, Graham Robertson, Gloria Greguric, Joy Hepworth, Leo Lane, Mary Topham, Bob Grant, Pat Evans, Virginia, Sarah and Peter Kolhbach, Samantha Anderson, *Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care.* (Names of those who are ill will be removed after six weeks. Please advise the parish office if you wish names to remain or be removed if good health as been restored.)

### THE SACRAMENTS IN OUR PARISH

**BAPTISMS:** Will be held on Saturday's at 11.00 am in St Francis Xavier Church. A week's notice prior to the preferred Baptism is essential for preparation and notification to the Priest.

**CONFIRMATION:** TBA                      **RECONCILIATION:** 30th August, 2022                      **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** 18th September, 2022

**WEDDINGS:** In either church. Arrange an appointment with a Priest. Please allow at least 6 months for compulsory preparation.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Please contact the Parish Office if anointing is required.

**FUNERALS:** In either church. Requiem Mass or Funeral Prayers. Church booking arrangements with Funeral Director of choice, Liturgy arrangements with our priests.

**HOSPITAL:** If you have a loved one in hospital and require a priest, please contact the parish office 6681 1048.

### **PLACES OF WORSHIP ~ KEEPING US SAFE.**

- Hand sanitiser is provided at entrances to our Churches ~ Masks are not mandatory, but encouraged in our churches
- Reival of Holy Communion in the hand only ~ Singing is allowed
- Social distancing not mandatory, but encouraged ~ Density limits are not mandatory
- If unwell please stay home until you feel well again.                      **Thank you.**

### **Prayer for our Community**

*God, Lord of all creation, lover of life and of everything, please help us to love in our very small way what You love infinitely and everywhere. We thank You that we can offer just this one prayer and that will be more than enough, because in reality every thing and every one is connected, and nothing stands alone. To pray for one part is really to pray for the whole, and so we do. Help us each day to stand for love, for healing, for the good, for the diverse unity of the Body of Christ and all creation, because we know this is what You desire: as Jesus prayed, that all may be one.*

*We offer our prayer together with all the holy names of God, we offer our prayer together with Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

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**THANK YOU to all Parishioners** for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese (1<sup>st</sup> collection).

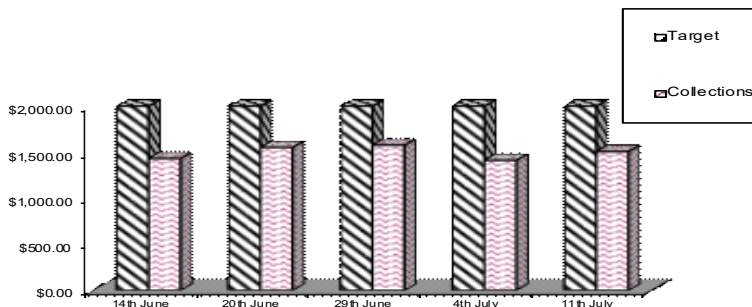
Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy.                      **Father Peter and Father Anselm**

### **DIF PAYS 0.45% PER ANNUM**

**BALLINA AGENTS:** Michael Shay, **L J Hooker** 87-89 River St Ballina 6686 2711 - Crowley Admin Office Cherry St Ballina 1300 139 099 or online [www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au)

### **THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 694.30
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 307.80
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$1,506.70
<b>Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target</b>		<b>\$2,009.00</b>



### **SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH BALLINA - PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM**

If you are a new parishioner to Ballina or an existing one and you would like to participate in the Planned Giving Program, cards are available for completion at the Parish Administration Office. Your details will be processed and a tracking number provided. Contact SFX Parish Admin office on 6681 1048 Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 4.00 pm.

For your convenience we have the option of Direct Debit and/or Envelope contribution and monthly deductions by Credit Card.

# Parish Notices

Low Gluten Hosts are available from the Priest at all weekend Masses.



**BAPTISM:** Our parish family welcomes into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week:  
**Harley Thompson** son of Benjamin and Dewi.

**'THANK YOU' - FATHER JIM GRIFFIN**  
for assisting Father Anselm with our weekend Masses, while Father Peter has been on leave.  
**Our prayers go with you Father Jim.**  
**This week we will welcome Father Peter home to our parish.**

**PLANNED GIVING TAX RECEIPTS 2021/22** Tax receipts are now available for collection from the parish administration office ~ 8.30 am to 4.00 pm.  
**2022/2023 PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES**  
Envelopes that have not been collected from the back of the Church are now available from the Parish Reception Office.



## CROWLEY AUXILIARY

*Invites you to*  
**CHRISTMAS IN JULY**  
lunch & trivia

*Join the Crowley Auxiliary for a delicious lunch and fun afternoon of trivia!*  
*Thursday 28th July*  
*Crowley Education Centre 12.00 pm to 2.00 pm*  
*\$27.50 per person ~ BYO Wine*  
*includes Christmas style Roast Lunch and Christmas Pudding Dessert.*

Please book and pay via cash or card at Crowley reception by **Monday 25th July.**  
**Please note:** This event will proceed subject to COVID status at the time.



## ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY 2022 WINTER APPEAL

Thank you for supporting the fundraising appeal recently. If you missed the chance but still want to contribute, there are envelopes at the Church entrances. If you prefer direct deposit please use the following information:

**BSB: 062 000**  
**Account No: 1988 9862**  
**Ref No : 43450**  
*Please give generously!*  
*Every dollar can make a difference.*  
*Thank you.*

## GENTLE AS SILENCE

1. Oh, the love of my Lord  
is the essence,  
Of all that I love here on  
Earth.  
All the beauty I see,  
He has given to me.  
And His giving is as gentle  
as silence.

2. Every day, every hour,  
every moment,  
Have been blessed by the  
Strength of His love.  
At the turn of each tide,  
He is there at my side,  
And His touch is as gentle  
as silence.

3. There've been times  
when I've turned from His presence,  
and I've walked other paths, other ways.  
But I've called on His name,  
In the dark of my shame,  
And his mercy was as gentle as silence.



## CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY

The next Crowley Auxiliary meeting will be on **Monday 25th July at 3.00 pm,** in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street, Ballina.  
Please consider attending, as you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre.  
**You will be most Welcome!**

## REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS

If you or a loved one is in need of prayers, there is a box in the Reception Office of the Parish Admin Centre, for you to place your request in. The Anawim prayer group will offer prayers each Monday afternoon. Your private requests will be kept confidential.  
Our clergy offer Mass on request by completing the 'Offer Holy Mass envelopes' situated at our Church doors.  
**'When prayers go up blessings come down.'**



## The Good Pantry Lismore to open at former Wyrallah Road Food Hub

Many people across the Northern Rivers are still desperately flood-affected. The **Diocesan Flood Appeal** has been generously supported by donors across the country and around the world. Bishop Greg has carefully considered the needs of our community, and decided to support causes that will have lasting benefits for the largest number of people. The first initiative will be to launch **The Good Pantry Lismore**, in partnership with the Lismore Soup Kitchen (The Winsome). The facility will sell dry pantry items at low cost for people in need, particularly flood-affected residents and Health Care Card holders from Monday 18th July. The Good Pantry Lismore will open weekdays from 10.00am to 3.00pm at 51 Wyrallah Road, East Lismore. More information will be available on The Good Pantry Lismore Facebook page (current Facebook page '51 Wyrallah Food Hub Lismore').

**The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office** If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Diocese of Lismore, we ask you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss options you have available to you.  
To contact the Safeguarding Office, please phone (02) 6621 9444 or email: [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)

**Christian Meditation Group:** Saturday 9.30 am Anawim Room, Admin Centre for all enquiries please contact John Cheadle by ringing the Parish Admin Office 6681 1048  
**Marian Cenacle:** Monday 11.00 am Anawim Room enquiries to Narelle King via the Parish Admin Centre  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 11.00 am Friday  
**Sisterhood:** Mondays 10.30 am Parish Administration Building Contact Leanne Robbins via Admin Office.  
**Parish Youth Group:** 7.00 pm Saturday evening following the 6.00 pm Vigil Mass Upper Room Parish Admin Centre.

Contact Bianca McInnes 6681 1048  
**Ballina CCR :** Monday 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029  
**Prayer of the Church and Rosary:** Saturday 9.00 am SFX Church  
**Rosary at Holy Family Church Lennox Head:** 8.00 am Wednesday mornings with Chaplet of Divine Mercy and 7.00 am Sunday mornings before 7.30 am Mass.

**Welcome to our prayer gatherings.**

**First Reading: Genesis 18:1-10;**  
*A reading from the book of Genesis*

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said, 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said, 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent,' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

The Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm:**

***The just will live in the presence of the Lord***

**1.** Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue. **(R.)**

**2.** He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord. **(R.)**

**3.** He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.

Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R)**

**Second Reading: Col 1:24-28;**

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians*

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

***Alleluia!***

**Gospel: Lk 10:38-42**

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.*

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one.

It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



**FOR THIS WEEK'S MIDDAY MASSES—PLEASE PRAY TOGETHER  
TUESDAY—WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY**

**Entrance Antiphon :** See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good .

**Communion Antiphon:** The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.

**FRIDAY— FEAST OF ST MARY MAGDALENE**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord said to Mary Magdalene: Go to my brothers and tell them: I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.

**Communion Antiphon:** The love of Christ impels us, so that those who live may live no longer for themselves, but for him who died for them and was raised.

**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ 1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS: Parishioners are able to continue their contribution to our clergy and the parish if they wish by following the following information.**

- **By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY**
- **By making an EFTPOS donation — 1st Collection to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: your name 2nd Collection to St Francis Xavier Parish BSB 082 522 A/c 50960 3218 Please ensure you use your Planed Giving number as reference, place your envelopes in the collection boxes provided in the church or bring them to the Parish Office at your convenience. Thank you.**



**Invest** with peace of mind

[www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au) 1800 802 516



The Diocesan Investment Fund (DIF) is not subject to the provisions of the Corporations Act 2001 nor has it been examined or approved by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. Deposits with the DIF are guaranteed by CDFP Limited, a company established by the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference for this purpose. We welcome your investment with the DIF rather than with a profit oriented commercial organisation as a conscious commitment by you to support the Charitable, Religious and Educational works of the Catholic Church. Neither the DIF nor the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Lismore are prudentially supervised by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority; contributions to the DIF do not obtain the benefit of the depositor protection provisions of the Banking Act 1959; the DIF is designed for investors who wish to promote the charitable purposes of the DIF.